

HAA 228v Graduate Seminar: *Syllabus and readings*  
Friday, 1:00–3:00pm, Sackler 406  
Professors Thomas Leisten and David J. Roxburgh  
Office (Sackler Museum): Leisten, 411; Roxburgh, 413  
Telephone: Leisten 617–495–2355; Roxburgh 617–496–1056  
Office hours: Leisten, Fridays 3-4; Roxburgh, Fridays 9-11  
Emails: leistent@princeton.edu; roxburgh@fas.harvard.edu

Fall 2004

## EARLY ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Focuses on the architectural monuments and sites of early Islam through to ca. 1000—including the regions of Syria, Iraq, Egypt, and Iran—with an emphasis on the history, techniques, and methods of archaeology.

### READINGS

All readings are required and should be read before each weekly meeting of the seminar. All books and articles are on open or closed reserve at the Fine Arts library. Articles and some book sections (marked with an asterisk \*) are arranged as xeroxes in a binder. Some of the books used in the seminar may be available for purchase at booksellers in Harvard Square (e.g., the Harvard Bookstore, Wordsworth) or can be ordered through internet booksellers.

### REQUIREMENTS

In addition to weekly attendance and participation in classroom discussions, each student is responsible for making a 30-minute presentation to the seminar on a research topic chosen by him or her and discussed with the professors. Students should provide each member of the seminar with a one-page bibliography, sketching out the most important sources for their project, on November 12. The final paper is due on January 15. It should be accompanied by a scholarly apparatus comprising footnotes, bibliography, and illustrations.

Breakdown of grade: classroom 30%; presentation 20%; paper 50%.

## READINGS AND SEMINAR TOPICS BY WEEK

Sept. 24

RELEVANCE OF THE PAST: THE PRE-ISLAMIC PERIOD IN ARABIA, MESOPOTAMIA, AND SYRIA

Readings:

Al-Azraqi, Abū al-Walīd Mu'ammad b. ʿAbdallāh. *Akhbār Makka wa mā jāʿa fihā min al-āthār* (edition TBA).

Rubin, Uri. "The Kaʿba: Aspects of its Ritual Functions and Position in Pre-Islamic and Early Islamic Times," in *The Arabs and Arabia on the Eve of Islam*, edited by F. E. Peters (Aldershot, 1999), pp. 313-347. \*

Al-Ansary, A. R. *Qaryat al-Fau: A Portrait of Pre-Islamic Civilization in Saudi Arabia* (Riyadh, 1982).

Gaube, Heinz. "Arabs in Sixth-Century Syria: Some Observations," *British Society for Middle Eastern Studies Bulletin*, 8, 2 (1981): 93-98. \*

Northedge, Alastair. "Archaeology and Islam," in *Companion Encyclopedia of Archaeology*, edited by G. Barker (London, 1999), pp. 1077-1106. \*

Pentz, Peter. *The Invisible Conquest: The Ontogenesis of Sixth and Seventh Century Syria* (Copenhagen, 1992), pp. 8-30.

Oct. 1

HOUSE OR ʿĪMĀ: HISTORIOGRAPHY ON THE PROPHET'S MOSQUE IN MADINA

Readings:

ʿAkkush, A. "Contribution à une étude des origines de l'architecture musulmane. La Grande Mosquée de Médine," in *Mélanges Maspéro* (Paris, 1940), pp. 377-410. \*

Al-ʿAlī, S. "Studies in the Topography of Madinah," *Islamic Culture* 35 (1961): 62-92. \*

Bisheh, Ghazi Izzedin. *The Mosque of the Prophet at Madinah Throughout the First Century A.H.* (Michigan, 1979).

Lambert, E. "Les origines de la mosquée et l'architecture religieuse des Omeyyades," in *Studia Islamica* 6 (1956): 5-18. \*

Johannes Pedersen. "Masjdīd," in *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, vol. 3, pp. 315-376. \*

Al-Samhūdī, Nūr al-Dīn ʿAlī b. ʿAbdallāh. *Wafāʾ al-wafāʾ bi-akhbār dār al-muḥāfaʾ*, edited by Qāsim al-Sāmarrāʾī (London, 2001).

Sauvaget, Jean. *La mosquée omeyyade de Médine* (Paris, 1947).

Oct. 8 ANACHRONISTIC ARCHITECTURE: ANJAR, KUFA, AYLÄ

Readings:

Akbar, J. "Khaṭṭā and the Territorial Structure of Early Muslim Towns," *Muqarnas* 6 (1990): 22-32. \*

Djaït, Hichem. *Al-Kufa, naissance de la ville islamique* (Paris, 1986).

Kennedy, H. "From Polis to Madina: Urban Change in Late Antiquity and Early Islamic Syria," *Past and Present* 106 (1985): 3-27. \*

Kubiak, W. *Al-Fustat* (Cairo, 1987), pp. 58-75. \*

Nezar al-Sayyad. *Cities and Caliphs: On the Genesis of Arab Muslim Urbanism* (New York, 1991), pp. 43-111.

Northedge, Alastair. "Archaeology and New Urban Settlement in Early Islamic Syria and Iraq," in *The Byzantine and Early Islamic Near East II: Land Use and Settlement Patterns, Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam*, vol. 1, edited by G. R. D. King and Averil Cameron (Princeton, N. J., 1994), pp. 231-265. \*

Whitcomb, D. "The Miṣr of Ayla: Settlement at al-ÆAqaba in the Early Islamic Period," in *The Byzantine and Early Islamic Near East II: Land Use and Settlement Patterns, Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam*, vol. 1, edited by G. R. D. King and Averil Cameron (Princeton, N. J., 1994), pp. 155-170. \*

Oct. 15 THE AMBIGUITY OF KEY MONUMENTS I: THE DOME OF THE ROCK

Readings:

Grabar, Oleg. "The Umayyad Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem," *Ars Orientalis* 3 (1959): 33-62. \*

Grabar, Oleg. *The Formation of Islamic Art* (New Haven/London, 1983/1987), pp. 43-71.

Grabar, Oleg. *The Shape of the Holy* (Princeton, N. J., 1996).

Tamari, Shemuel. *Iconotextual Studies in the Muslim Ideology of Umayyad Architecture and Urbanism* (Wiesbaden/Ramat-Gan, 1996).

Oct. 22 THE AMBIGUITY OF KEY MONUMENTS II: THE Umayyad MOSQUE OF DAMASCUS

Readings:

Brisch, K. "Observations on the Iconography of the Mosaics in the Great Mosque at Damascus," in *Content and Context of Visual Arts in the Islamic World*, edited by Priscilla Soucek (Philadelphia/London, 1988), pp. 13-25. \*

Finster, B. "Die Mosaiken der Umayyadenmoschee von Damaskus," *Kunst des Orients* 7 (1970/71): 83-142. \*

Flood, F. B. *The Great Mosque of Damascus* (Leiden, 2001).

Van Lohuizen-Mulder, M. "The Mosaics in the Great Mosque at Damascus: A Vision of Beauty," *BaBesch* 70 (1995): 193-213. \*

Oct. 29

REVISITING Umayyad PALACES I: NEW EVIDENCE AND LITERATURE

Readings:

Lammens, H. "La Bâdiya et la Óÿra sous les Omeiyades," *Mélanges de la Faculté Orientale de Beyrouth* 4 (1910): 91-112. \*

Gaube, Heinz. "Die syrischen Wüstenschl sser. Einige wirtschaftliche und politische Gesichtspunkte zu ihrer Entstehung," *Zeitschrift des deutschen Palästinavereins* 95 (1979): 182-209. \*

Sauvaget, Jean. "Ch teaux umayyades de Syrie," *Révue des Études Islamiques* 35 (1967): 1-52. \*

Nov. 5

REVISITING Umayyad PALACES II: MSHATTÁ—STILL A PROBLEM

Readings:

Enderlein, Volkmar, and Michael Meinecke. "Graben-Forschen-Präsentieren. Probleme der Darstellung vergangener Kulturen am Beispiel der Mshatta-Fassade," *Jahrbuch der Berliner Museen* 34 (1992): 137-172. \*

Grabar, Oleg. "The Date and Meaning of Mshatta," *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* 41 (1987): 243-247. \*

Grabar, Oleg. "Al-Mushatta, Baghdâd, and Wâsiâ," in *World of Islam: Studies in Honor of Philip K. Hitti*, edited by J. Kritzer and R. Winder (London and New York, 1959), pp. 99-108. \*

Grünauer, Peter. "Entwurfprinzip und Metrologieumayyadischer Wüstenschl sser," *Koldewey-Gesellschaft. Bericht über die 28. Tagung für Ausgrabungswissenschaft und Bauforschung vom 7.-11. Mai 1975 in Kassel* (Karlsruhe, 1978), pp. 19-23. \*

Hillenbrand, Robert. "Islamic Art at the Crossroads: East versus West at Mshatta," in *Essays in Islamic Art and Architecture in Honor of Katharina Otto-Dorn*, edited by Abbas Daneshvari (Malibu, 1981), pp. 63-86. \*

Northedge, Alastair. "Mshatta," in *The Grove Dictionary of Art* (New York, 1996): 22:250. \*

Trümpelmann, Leo. *Mschatta* (Tübingen, 1962), review by Oleg Grabar in *Journal of American Oriental Society* 84 (1964): 187-188. \*

Nov. 12 EARLY ABBASIDS IN SYRIA AND IRAQ

Readings:

Grabar, Oleg. "Al-Mushatta, Baghdād, and Wāsiā," in *World of Islam: Studies in Honor of Philip K. Hitti*, edited by J. Kritzer and R. Winder (London and New York, 1959), pp. 99-108. \*

Matthews, T., and A. C. Daskalakis-Matthews. "Islamic-Style Mansions in Byzantine Cappadocia and the Development of the Inverted T-Plan," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 56 (1997): 294-315. \*

Piacentini, V. F. "Madina/Shahr, Qarya/Deh, Nahiya/Rustaq. The City as Political-Administrative Institution: The Continuity of the Sasanian Model," *Jerusalem Studies in Arabic and Islam* 17 (1994): 85-107. \*

Wendell, C. "Baghdad: Imago Mundi and Other Foundation Lore," *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 2 (1971): 99-128. \*

Whitcomb, Donald. "Archaeology of the Abbasid period: The Example of Jordan," *Archéologie Islamique* 1 (1990): 75-85. \*

Nov. 19 PROBLEMS IN THE STUDY OF SAMARRA

Readings:

Leisten, Thomas. *The Excavation of Samarra. Final Report of the First Campaign 1911-13. Vol. I Architecture* (Mainz, 2003).

*Excavations at Samarra, 1936-1939* (Baghdad, 1940).

Robinson, Chase F., ed. *A Medieval Islamic City Reconsidered: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Samarra* (Oxford, 2001).

Rogers, J. M. "Sāmarrā, A Study in Medieval Town Planning," in *The Islamic City*, edited by A. H. Hourani and S. M. Stern (Oxford, 1970), pp. 119-155.

[Nov. 26: Thanksgiving recess]

Dec. 3 A NEW CLASS OF ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE: THE MAUSOLEUM IN IRAN AND CENTRAL ASIA

Readings:

Allen, T. "The Tombs of the ÆAbbāsid Caliphs in Baghdād," *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 46 (1983): 421-431. \*

Blair, Sheila S. *The Monumental Inscriptions from Early Islamic Iran and Transoxania* (Leiden, 1992).

Bulatov, M. S. *Mavzolei Samanidov-zhemchuzhina arkhitektury Srednei Azli* (Tashkent, 1976).

Gaube, Heinz. "What Arabic and Persian Sources Tell Us About the Structure of Tenth-Century Bukhara," in *Bukhara: the Myth and the Architecture*, edited by Attilio Petruccioli (Cambridge, Mass., 1999), pp. 19-28. \*

Grabar, O. "The Earliest Islamic Commemorative Structures. Notes and Documents," *Ars Orientalis* 6 (1966): 7-46. \*

Grenet, F. *Les pratiques funéraires dans l'Asie centrale sédentaire: de la conquête grecque à l'islamisation* (Paris, 1984).

Leisten, Thomas. "Between Orthodoxy and Exegesis: Some Aspects of Attitudes in the ShariÆa Toward Funerary Architecture," *Muqarnas* 7 (1990): 12-22. \*

Leisten, Thomas. "Dynastic Tomb or Private Mausolea: Observations on the Concept of Funerary Structures of the Fāʾimid and ÆAbbāsid Caliphs," in *L'Égypte Fatimide: son art et son histoire*, edited by Marianne Barrucand (Paris, 1999), pp. 465-479. \*

Pugachenkova, G. *Mavzolei Arab-Ata: iz istorii arkhitektury Maverannakhra IX-X vv.* (Tashkent, 1963).

Rempel', L. "The Mausoleum of IsmaÆil the Samanid," *BAIPAA* 4 (1936): 198-208. \*

Stock, G. "Das Samanidenmausoleum in Bukhara I," *Archäologische Mitteilungen aus Iran* N.F. 22 (1989): 253-290. \*

Dec. 10 STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Dec. 17 STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

Jan. 4–14 READING PERIOD. **Research papers due on January 15**

## ADDITIONAL BOOKS ON RESERVE

- Bloom, Jonathan. *Minaret: Symbol of Islam* (Oxford, 1989).
- Creswell, K. A. C. *A Short Account of Early Muslim Architecture* (Aldershot, 1989).
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Early Muslim Architecture* (New York, 1979).
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Muslim Architecture of Egypt* (New York, 1979).
- Franz, Heinrich. *Von Baghdad bis Cordoba: Ausbreitung und Entfaltung der islamischen Kunst 850-1050* (Graz, Austria, 1984).
- Galdieri, Eugenio, ed. *Isfahan: Masjid-i juma'Ä* (Rome, 1972).
- Grabar, Oleg. *The Great Mosque of Isfahan* (New York, 1990).
- Grabar, Oleg, et al. *City in the Desert, Qasr al-Hayr East* (Cambridge, Mass., 1978).
- Hamilton, R. W. *Walid and His Friends: An Umayyad Tragedy* (Oxford 1988).
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Khirbat al-Majjar: An Arabian Mansion in the Jordan Valley* (Oxford, 1959).
- Herzfeld, Ernst. *Geschichte der Stadt Samarra* (Berlin, 1948).
- Hillenbrand, Robert. *Islamic Architecture: Form, Function, and Meaning* (New York, 1994).
- Humphreys, Stephen. *Islamic History: A Framework for Inquiry* (Princeton, N. J., 1991).
- Johns, Jeremy, ed. *Bayt al-Maqdis: Jerusalem and Early Islam, Oxford Studies in Islamic Art*, vol. 9, part 2 (Oxford, 1999).
- King, G. R. D. *The Historical Mosques of Saudi Arabia* (London, 1986).
- Lassner, Jacob. *The Topography of Baghdad in the Early Middle Ages* (Detroit, 1970).
- Mayer, L. A. *Islamic Architects and Their Works* (Geneva, 1956).
- Muqaddasÿ, Mu'ammad b. A'mad. *Description of Syria*, translated by Guy Le Strange (New York, 1971).
- Necipölu, Gülrü, ed. "Pre-Modern Islamic Palaces," *Ars Orientalis* 23 (1993). Volume of papers from a conference.
- Raby, Julian, and Jeremy Johns, eds. *Bayt al-Maqdis: ÄAbd al-Malik's Jerusalem, Oxford Studies in Islamic Art*, vol. 9, part 1 (Oxford, 1992).
- Sarre, Friedrich. *Archäologische Reise im Euphrat- und Tigris-gebiet* (Berlin, 1911-20).
- Sauvaget, Jean. *Les monuments historiques de Damas* (Beirut, 1932).
- Tabarÿ. *The Early Abbasid Empire*, translated by John Alden Williams (New York, 1988-89).
- Whitehouse, David. *Siraf: The Congregational Mosque and Other Mosques from the Ninth to the Twelfth Centuries* (London, 1980).